



## THINK FOOD

### School Nutrition Programs

#### Shipment 8

#### January 2013

#### BE A STAR WITH SCHOOL BREAKFAST!

Every cafeteria is filled with rising stars who need a healthy start every day for success. "*Be a Star with School Breakfast*" will highlight how eating a healthy, balanced breakfast at school helps students shine bright. Stars like musicians, actors, and athletes can inspire kids to dream big and kids need a healthy start every day to make their dreams come true.

March 4-8, 2013 is the time to celebrate National School Breakfast Week. *Opening Night Oatmeal* and *Picture Perfect Pancakes and Sausage* are just two of the star attraction menu ideas available to help you plan your celebration.



For more information and ideas about how you can roll out the red carpet for your young stars visit [www.schoolnutrition.org/nsbw](http://www.schoolnutrition.org/nsbw).

#### USDA FOODS ORDER

The OPI USDA Foods order form for school year 2014 will be closing next week. If you have not entered your order please do so. Because of time constraints there will be no extensions for late orders.

The order form can be found by going to <https://data.opi.mt.gov/USDAFoods/Frmlogin.aspx>. If you have questions about ordering contact the OPI School Nutrition office at (406) 444-2501.

#### WINTER BID WINNER!

The winner of the 2013 Office of Public Instruction Cooperative Purchase program winter bid is Food Services of America. Deliveries will begin in January. If you have questions please contact the OPI School Nutrition office at (406) 444-2501.

#### SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAMS

It's never too early to start thinking about the summer feeding programs. Hunger doesn't take a break when school is not in session during the summer months. One in ten people in Montana live in households where there is not always enough food.



Schools or nonprofits in areas with at least 50 percent free and reduced-price lunch participation can qualify to run a summer food site. Federal reimbursement is available for each meal served during the summer break.

If you are interested in learning more about the Summer Food Service Programs visit the OPI School Nutrition Programs Web site at: [http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School\\_Nutrition/summer.html](http://www.opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School_Nutrition/summer.html).

If you are interested in starting a summer food site in your area, contact Sofia Janik at the OPI School Nutrition Programs office at (406) 444-2521.

### **MENU PATTERN FLEXIBILITY**

On December 7, 2012 the USDA released policy memo SP11-2013. Click on the following link to view the memo in its entirety.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/cnd/governance/Policy-Memos/2013/SP11-2013os.pdf>



Policy memo SP11-2013 *updates the guidance on the grain and meat/meat alternate maximums for school year 2012-13*. The USDA is allowing flexibility for districts in menu planning and for state agencies in monitoring compliance with the new meal patterns, specifically in regard to the grain and meat/meat alternate maximums. As reported in the USDA memo, any district is *"compliant with the component requirements for grains and meat/meat alternates if the menu is compliant with the daily and weekly minimums for these two components, regardless of whether they have exceeded the maximums for the same components."* **Please note that menus must still be in compliance with the calorie ranges.**

If your district has already been certified there is no need to make any revisions. Your certified menus fit within this additional flexibility.

If you have submitted your menus for certification but are not yet certified the OPI School Nutrition office will contact you if any additional clarification or menu certification materials are needed. The new flexible guidelines will be applied.

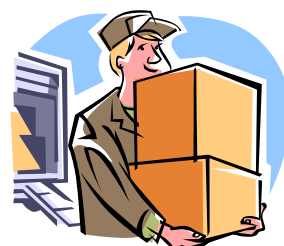
Districts that have not submitted certification materials will still use the current materials that are posted on the USDA Web site and that were discussed during the OPI trainings.

Flexibility has been given for the grain and meat/meat alternate maximums for SY 2012-13. The OPI School Nutrition office will let everyone know if the USDA makes further adjustments beyond the current school year.

For more information along with some frequently asked questions and answers visit the OPI Web site at: [http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School\\_Nutrition/](http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/School_Nutrition/) and select Current Events and Training.

### **FINAL FROZEN SHIPMENT FOR SY 2012**

Shipment 8 will be the final USDA Foods frozen shipment for SY 2012-13.



Additions can still be made to orders so if you would like to receive some of the charbroiled beef patties or chicken patty tenders please send your e-mail request to Clay Hickman at [chickman@mt.gov](mailto:chickman@mt.gov) by **January 17, 2013**.

We will be unable to fill any orders received after that date. Be sure to send your request to Clay before the deadline.

